Notice of Interim Final Federal Implementation Plan
for Clean Air Act requirements to
Control Volatile Organic Compound Emissions from Oil and Natural Gas Production Sources
on the Uintah & Ouray Indian Reservation
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 8, Air Program

Take notice that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is taking comment on an interim final Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) for Clean Air Act (CAA) requirements to control Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) emissions from oil and natural gas production sources on the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation (UOIR) in Utah.

The EPA's intention is to promulgate Federal regulations that reflect an important initial step to fill the regulatory gap with regard to controlling VOC emission from oil and gas production operations on the UOIR. However, the EPA does not intend, nor does it expect, this gap-filling regulation to impose significantly different regulatory burdens upon the industry or the residents than those imposed by the rules of the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ) for operations in the surrounding areas. This interim final rule is intended to formally level the playing field. In other words, the EPA intends that the residents receive equivalent air quality protections as those outside the UOIR while the industry is regulated in a similar fashion as the UDEQ requirements that apply to those operating outside the UOIR.

Members of the public may review copies of the interim final FIP prepared by U.S. EPA and all supporting materials at the Uintah County Clerk's Office in Vernal, Utah, the Ute Indian Tribe's Environmental Programs Office in Fort Duchesne, Utah, and at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency office, Region 8, in Denver, Colorado. All documents will be available for review at the EPA Region 8 office Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (excluding Federal holidays). Electronic copies of the proposed and interim final FIP and all supporting materials may also be viewed, identified by Docket ID. EPA-R08-OAR-2015-0709, RIN 2008-AA02, R08-SAN-5872 at: Docket ID No. EPA-R08-OAR-2012-0479, at: http://www.regulations.gov.

If you have comments on the interim final FIP, you have until TBD Month day, year to submit them. Detailed instructions and methods for submitting comments are provided in the proposed and interim final FIP. A public hearing has been scheduled for TBD June 3, 2014, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Ute Tribal Auditorium, located at 6964 East 1000 South (2 miles South of Bottle Hollow), Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026.

You must register upon entering the public hearing to provide verbal comments during the hearing. Verbal comments will be heard on a first come first served basis. All written comments should be addressed to Carl Daly, Director, U.S. EPA, Region 8, Air Program (8P-AR), 1595 Wynkoop Street, Denver, CO 80202. All comments received by TBD Month day, year and all comments made during a public hearing will be considered in arriving at a final decision on the final FIP. At that time, the interim final rule will be superseded by the final FIP.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list to be informed of future actions on this FIP or other Clean Air Act actions on the FBIR, please send your name and mailing address or email address to Deirdre Rothery, U.S. EPA Region 8, Air Program (8P-AR), 1595 Wynkoop Street, Denver, CO 80202.